

URBAN DISTRICT OF NEW MILL.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1897.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my Annual Report of the Health of the New Mill Urban Sanitary District, I have to remind you that owing to changes in the boundaries of the District, the exact number of inhabitants is not known, but an estimate based on the number of occupied houses has been formed, giving the estimated population for the middle of the year 1897 at 5,370. The area of the District is 5,680 acres. The density of population is therefore in the proportion of less than one person per acre. For purposes of comparison it may be noticed that the average density of population in the Urban Districts of the West Riding is about three persons per acre, while in the Rural Districts there are about four acres to one person.

I. BIRTHS.

During the last year 161 infants were born, viz., 82 males and 79 females, which is equal to a birth-rate of 29·95 per 1,000 persons living. The rate for 1896 was 24·7. The rate for all England and Wales for 1897 was 29·7.

The total number of Deaths was 91, leaving an excess of Births over Deaths of 70.

II. DEATHS.

The number of Deaths registered was 91, viz., 37 males and 54 females. They died at the following ages:—

Under one year, 25, (27·4 per cent.)	Fifteen and under twenty-five, 6.	Total 91
One year and under five, 6. (6·5 per cent.)	Twenty-five and under sixty-five, 21, (23 per cent.)	
Five and under fifteen, 1.	Over sixty-five, 32, (35·1 per cent.)	

which is equal to a death-rate of 16·94 per 1,000. For the year 1896 the New Mill death-rate was 15·91 per 1,000; the rate for the Urban Districts of the West Riding was 17·00 per 1,000; the rate for England and Wales for 1897 was 17·4 per 1,000.

Therefore the death-rate for 1897 was higher than that for 1896, and it was also higher than the average of the last seven years. But on the other hand it was a little lower than that for England and Wales.

Of the 161 Infants born 25 died before reaching the age of 12 months, which is equal to an infantile mortality rate of 155·28. In 1896 the rate was 121·21. For England and Wales the rate was 156 per 1,000 births.

It should be noticed that over 27 per cent. of the deaths were at ages under 12 months, and over 35 per cent. at ages over 65 years, so that comparatively few died in youth or middle age.

III. DISEASE.

The amount and nature of the diseases prevalent in the District are more or less fully indicated by (a) the certified causes of death; (b) the notification returns; and (c) observation and common report.

(a) As indicated by registered causes of death. The following diseases were certified as the causes of the 91 deaths:—

		Rate.				Rate.
Puerperal Fever	...	1...	·186	Rheumatic Fever	1 ...	·186 per 1,000
Whooping Cough	...	3...	·558	Phthisis	9 ...	1·674 „
Diarrhœa and Dysentery	...	5...	·930	Bronchitis	} 19 ...	3·538 „
				Pneumonia		
				Pleurisy		
				Heart Disease	11 ...	2·048 „
				Cancer	2 ...	·372 „
				Injuries	2 ...	·372 „
				All other Diseases	38 ...	7·076 „
				(3 uncertified)		
Zymotic Diseases	...	9...	1·674	...	9 ...	1·674 „
				Total	91 ...	16·946 „

THE ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE was 1·674, which was a little higher than that for 1896, when it was 1·5, and which was almost entirely due to Whooping Cough and Infantile Diarrhœa.

THE PHTHISIS DEATH-RATE was 1·674, a little lower than that for 1896, when it was 1·684.

THE RESPIRATORY DEATH-RATE was 3·538, also a little lower than that for 1896, when it was 3·932.

(b) As indicated by returns under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act.

During the year I received five certificates under the Act. They referred to (1) a case of

- (1) SCARLET FEVER, at Sudehill, in April. The patient, a boy of five, was effectually isolated at home. The house was cleansed and disinfected, and every precaution was taken by the parents, sanitary officer, &c. The child recovered, and the disease did not spread. The infection was imported from Featherstone.

- 2) TYPHOID at Gooseholes, in April.

- (3) ERYSIPELAS at Sudehill, in June.

- (4) TYPHOID at Hepworth, in November.

- (5) ERYSIPELAS at Gooseholes, in December.

I was not able to decide in these cases how the infection was acquired. Most probably it was imported. But it should be noticed that Typhoid was present at Gooseholes and at Hepworth in 1896. However, they all recovered, and these diseases did not spread.

(c) With regard to diseases other than those included in the Notification List.

WHOOPIING COUGH prevailed from February to May, and caused three deaths

DIARRHŒA was prevalent from June to September, and caused five deaths in young children.

This disease amongst children is generally due to insanitary conditions, improper feeding, or tainted milk.

MEASLES.—I do not remember any authentic case, although it was prevalent in the surrounding districts.

INFLUENZA.—There have been a few cases throughout the year.

On the whole the Health of the New Mill District during 1897, and compared with the rest of the country, was fairly good, that is, a little better than the average.

IV. SANITARY CONDITION.

During the past year a good deal of Sanitary Work has been done. The details of it are given in the report of the Sanitary Inspector. Still I am sure you will agree with me when I say that the Sanitary condition of the District, as a whole, is not satisfactory, even in what I may call the elementary subjects of Water Supply, Drainage, and Scavenging.

THE WATER SUPPLY has been under the consideration of the Council, I believe, ever since its formation. The Bankhouse Reservoir is sometimes empty in summer, and therefore it is not sufficient for the houses which it now supplies. Many places have been reported from time to time as greatly in need of water. It is urgent, therefore, that the Council should decide upon a large scheme or schemes for supplying the rest of the District.

DRAINAGE.—You have an extensive scheme of Sewage Collection and Disposal waiting the sanction of the Local Government Board. In the meantime, several places outside the area comprised in the proposed scheme, as Hade Edge and Junction, are in want of proper sewers. Within the said area also there are places, such as Jackson Bridge Steep, where the condition of the old drains is dangerous to health, and they ought to be replaced by proper sewers as soon as possible.

SCAVENGING.—Private Scavenging is generally regarded as unsatisfactory, the removal of refuse being often left to the very last moment, or neglected altogether. I am glad to hear that you are improving in this matter, and hope you will develop a system of regularly emptying the closets by your own workmen, both in the centre and outlying districts.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.—In company with your Sanitary Inspector I have visited many farm premises from which milk is sold. We found the people and cattle healthy, but often the buildings were old and deficient in light, in means of ventilation, and in the space necessary for cleanliness. In some cases, instead of one heap of manure there were several placed round the buildings, a state of things quite as deplorable from an economic as from a sanitary point of view.

It would be well if you would adopt and publish Bye-laws and Regulations for Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops, so that farmers and landlords might know what is required of them by the Sanitary Authority.

I remain, Gentlemen,


Your obedient Servant,

ALBERT THORP.

Undercliffe, Feb. 18th, 1898.

SUMMARY.

Area, in Acres ...	...	...	..	5,680
Estimated Population	...	...	..	5,370
Birth-rate	...	...	..	29.95
Death-rate	...	...	...	16.94
Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 births)	...	...	...	155.28
Zymotic Death-rate	1.67
Phthisis	1.67
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate	3.53
Heart	2.00



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SUMMARY

OF

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES' REPORT, 1897.

Seventy-one Nuisances have been reported, and sixty-nine remedied.

Four hundred and eighty yards of 6 inch pipes, and 90 yards of 9 inch sewer pipes have been laid, and 80 yards of old drains have been repaired.

Sixteen privies have been erected, and ten repaired.

Three public Dust-bins have been erected.

One case of over-crowding abated.

Three Dwellings have been lime-washed and cleansed.

One Dwelling disinfected.

Twelve Workshops and four Slaughter-houses limewashed.

Eight Dwellings supplied with water from the Council's mains.

Eight public Wells cleansed.

The Sewers in New Mill frequently flushed, and the scavenging of Closets and Ashpits, &c., improved by sending dust carts around the village at frequent intervals.

FRED WADSWORTH,
Inspector of Nuisances.

NEW MILL,

URBAN DISTRICT

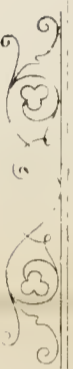


 REPORT 

OF

Medical Officer of Health

1897.



Eli Collins & Co., Ltd., Printers, Holmfirth.

NOTES ON TABLES A AND B.

NOTE 1. *Medical Officers of Health of "Combined Districts" must make a separate Return for the District of each District Council.*

2. *Medical Officers of Health acting for a portion only of the District of a District Council should write, in the heading of the Table, the designation of the Division for which they act.*

3. *The words "Urban," "Rural," or "Metropolitan" must be inserted in the appropriate space in the heading, according as the District is Urban or Rural, or is within the Metropolitan Area.*

4. *The "Localities" adopted for the purpose of these statistics should be areas of known population ; such as parishes, groups of parishes, townships or wards.*

As stated at the head of the first column in each Table, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the deaths in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmarys, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

5. *The deaths which have to be classified in this Table (A), and summed up in the horizontal line of "Totals," are the whole of those registered as having actually occurred in the several localities comprised within the Division or District. But the registered number of deaths frequently requires correction before it can give an exact view of the mortality of a Division or District ; and the two lowest horizontal lines are provided for the purpose of enabling Medical Officers of Health to indicate, to the best of their ability, what the extent of such corrections should be. Details concerning the corrective figures, e.g., the institutions that have been considered, or the particular localities to which corrections apply, may appear in the text of the report or in supplementary tables.*

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates.	
Area in Acres	5680
Population (Last Census)	New District
" (Estimated to middle of 1897)	5370
Death Rates.	General 16.94 { per 1,000 Population, estimated to middle of 1897.
	Infant (under one year of age) 155.28 { per 1,000 Births Registered.

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables A and B, attention has been given to the notes endorsed on the Tables.

Albert Thorpe Medical Officer of Health.

(Date) February 1898, 1898.

(B) *TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1897, in the New Mills District; classified according to DISEASES, AGES and LOCALITIES.*

[illegible]

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District Yes. Since when? May 6th 1896. Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated. There is a Hospital at Bracony Cliffe, within this district, which was used for small pox 3 years ago, and available if needed. This Council has joined a Hospital Board

NOTES ON TABLE B.

(See also Notes on back of Table A.)

NOTE 1. The present *Table B.* is concerned with population, births, and sickness (not with mortality) in the district or division to which the Table relates.

2. As stated in the heading of Col. (a), *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the new cases of sickness in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received, are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

3. *Comments on any unequal incidence of notifiable disease upon the several localities, and considerations as to the local incidence of Consumption and other prevalent diseases, should be made in the text of the Report.*